

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 6, line 17 with the following paragraph:

FIG. 3 is a graph illustrating the voltage drop from the pad to ~~source~~ drain (3a) ~~(and pad to drain, 3b)~~ source (3b) with exemplary values of the resistance. FIG. 3a illustrates that as the pad voltage ramps from 0V to 5V, the drop across the gate and drain of the input device ranges from -V_{dd} (-3.65v in this case) to 1.7v. In FIG. 3b illustrates that as the pad voltage ramps from 0V to 5V, the voltage drop from the gate to the ~~drain~~ source of the input devices ranges from -0.5V to 1.7V. Therefore, at no time is a voltage of greater than V_{DD} dropped across the gate oxide.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 11, line 14 with the following paragraph:

Furthermore, the output of each of the circuits 100 and 100' can be run through an analog multiplexer 142 that is controlled by a comparator 144. FIG. 13 illustrates such a configuration. Such a circuit will generally extend the output range of the source followers 100 and 100'.